

MSGNO 9 (STXX) S4A \*07/08/82\* \*00:54\*  
ZCZC 05:48:50Z (ST)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CO-VE BORDER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATE

25X1

82 9198105 SCR

NC 9198105

TOR: 070412Z AUG 82

RR RUEAII B  
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH  
UTS7555  
RR RUEHC  
DE RUESBG #8445 2181632  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 061631Z AUG 82  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3500  
RUESRS/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 9699  
BT  
EZ1:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BOGOTA 08445

EZ2:

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PEPR, VE, CO

SUBJECT: TURBAY-HERRERA BORDER MEETING AND BORDER INCIDENTS

REF: A) CARACAS 7610 B) CARACAS 7659

1. (LOU) PRESIDENT TURBAY'S REFERENCE TO "NEW WINDS" IN THE CARIBBEAN IN HIS SPEECH DURING HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT HERRERA AT THE BORDER ON JULY 28 (REF A) WAS, AS EMBASSY CARACAS CORRECTLY SURMISED, A REFERENCE TO SOVIET ACTIVITY IN THE AREA. TURBAY IS GIVEN TO COUCHING HIS CRITICISM OF SOVIET INTENTIONS, AND OF CUBAN AND NICARAGUAN COMPLICITY, IN AMBIGUOUS, ARTFUL LANGUAGE WHEN DEALING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER COUNTRIES, PROBABLY TO AVOID GIVING THE IMPRESSION TO THE WORLD THAT HE CONSTANTLY REPEATS HIMSELF. COLOMBIANS, HOWEVER, UNFAILINGLY KNOW THAT HE IS ADDRESSING ONE OF HIS MAJOR CONCERNS.

2. (C) WE DO NOT KNOW WHY THERE WAS A DELAY IN REPORTING THE RECENT BORDER INCIDENTS (REF B), OR WHETHER THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION WAS DELIBERATELY TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH THE PRESIDENTS' MEETING, BUT WE SUSPECT IT WAS SIMPLY A DECISION BY THE MEDIA. COLOMBIAN MILITARY OFFICERS ARE INCLINED TO DOWNPLAY THE IMPORTANCE OF SUCH INCIDENTS. LIKE THEIR VENEZUELAN COUNTERPARTS, THEY NOTE THAT THE BORDER AREA IS ILL-DEFINED AND MISTAKES WILL HAPPEN (SEE DAO BOGOTA IR 6 819 0278 82). BOYATT

NNNN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~